

INFORM RECORDED

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Russian Exploitation of Bulgarian Production

1. There is widespread disaffection not only among the Bulgarian people but even within the Bulgarian Communist Party against Soviet exploitation of Bulgarian production. It is believed that Soviet officials in Sofia are quarreling with Bulgarian Government officials over Bulgarian production quotas which are destined for the USSR.
2. An example of the stiffening attitude of high Bulgarian Communist officials toward the Russians during the past nine months is shown in the export of Bulgarian rose oil. In the past, four-fifths of Bulgarian rose oil production went to the USSR, but today none goes to the USSR. It is believed that Bulgarian officials are resisting Soviet quotas in other fields of Bulgarian production as well.
3. [redacted] the Albanian Government was not content with the 60,000 tons of Bulgarian wheat which were exported from Bulgaria, apparently on Soviet instructions. [redacted] the Czech Government had advised the USSR that Czechoslovakia was unwilling to continue to "support" Albania and therefore suggested that some of the other Satellites assume the burden. Presumably Bulgaria is now sharing the load.

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Extension of Restricted Zones

4. In early February 1955 Soviet military control was tightening up (sic) in the Plovdiv and Khaskovo areas.
5. Stalin (formerly Varna) is becoming increasingly militarized and will be closed to vacationers as soon as new bathing installations, currently under

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construction, are completed in Burgas. Because Varna is an ideal summer resort and Burgas is very hot in summer and unsatisfactory as a substitute, it is believed that many Bulgarians will be dissatisfied with this change and resent the Russian militarization of Varna to exclude vacationers.

Isolation of Russians Stationed in Bulgaria

6. There is no friendship between Russians stationed in Bulgaria and Bulgarians. The Russians are not allowed contact with Bulgarian families, and the Russians have their own clubs and restaurants.

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